



Vignette issued by the Hellenic Olympic Committee for the 70th anniversary of the first Olympic Games at Athens.



*This is not the first time that the "Bulletin" has discussed the latest Olympic stamps. However, up till now, our news has only been of a sporadic nature — and readers have often deplored this. From now on then, we hope to devote a regular feature to questions concerning olympic philately, and with as much detail as possible. In addition to showing the main issues of stamps, our new feature will discuss the problems peculiar to philately, its demands, its rules, its ethics even, all of which problems are becoming more and more pressing.*

*We would be grateful if our readers, and more particularly members of the I.O.C. and the National Olympic Committees, would help with this feature by keeping us informed of the latest philatelic news from their country and by sending us if possible copies of new series, special issues, surcharges and postmarks of olympic type to the following address : " I.O.C. Bulletin ", Philatelic Feature, Mon-Repos, Lausanne (Switzerland). The Editor.*

Four months elapsed between the Mexican Post Office's issue on 17th December, 1965 of the first pre-olympic series and the issue of other stamps dedicated to the same subject. On 1st April of this year, the Paraguayan postal services issued a pre-olympic series consisting of eight stamps depicting pre-Hispanic sculpture of a sporting nature.

This series consists of five ordinary postage stamps with a printing of three hundred thousand copies for each of the values 0.10, 0.15, 0.20, 0.30 and 0.50 guarani, and three airmail stamps of 12.45, 18.15 and 36 guarani, twenty thousand copies being printed of the first two and twelve thousand only of the highest value.

Five thousand complete sets of these stamps have also been printed without perforations and in other colours. The 36 guarani airmail value has also been issued in small sheets numbered from 1 to 5000, the total number printed. Naturally this sheet also exists without perforations. However only four thousand copies

were printed, numbered from 1 to 4000.

Finally, one thousand sets consisting of the eight perforated stamps (and not perforated and unperforated sheets) marked in blue in their centre with the word " Muestra ", meaning " specimen ", have been distributed throughout the world as publicity for stamp dealers and the trade press.

The 6th session of the International Olympic Academy held at Olympia from 30th July to 16th



... and 18.15 guarani



... and 36 guarani



... 0.15 guarani



... 0.50 guarani

August this year, was commemorated by a special portmark featuring the olympic rings, and stamped on cards commemorating the seventieth anniversary of the first Olympic Games, issued by Mr. Georges Papastefanou, Director of the Museum at Olympia.

Maurizio Tecardi.